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Statement of Arthur F. Duffy representing The American Legion before the  
House Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments on H. R. 2319,  
the National Security Act of 1947.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

My name is Arthur F. Duffy. My address is 161-04 Jamaica Avenue,  
Jamaica, New York. I am, and have been, Chairman of the Naval Affairs  
Committee -- a sub-committee of the National Defense Committee of The American  
Legion. With John Dwight Sullivan, I have been appointed by S. Perry Brown,  
Chairman of the National Defense Committee, to represent The American Legion  
before the House Committee hearings on H. R. 2319.

I have participated in the preparation of the statement of John  
Dwight Sullivan for submission to the Committee and concur fully in his  
statement in all respects.

The subject of Unification of Command was before the Naval Affairs  
Committee at various meetings during the war. The naval viewpoint only was  
voiced in the meetings, but the opinions of the Ground and Air Forces were  
heard in the full meeting of the National Defense Committee. Agreement was  
had to defer action in the matter until after cessation of hostilities.

With the war ended, the subject again came before the Committee.  
Never has a matter before The American Legion been more studied and debated.  
The vote in 1945 was unanimous for the statement of principle set forth in  
Mr. Sullivan's statement. The resolution of 1946 was adopted by the Convention  
in San Francisco, after full debate, and became the mandate of The American  
Legion.

The American Legion believes the bill, H. R. 2319, should be  
favorably reported by your Committee in the interest of the National Security.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur F. Duffy

Statement of John Dwight Sullivan representing The American Legion before the House Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments on H. R. 2319, the National Security Act of 1947.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

My name is John Dwight Sullivan. My address is 280 Broadway, New York, New York. I am a member of the National Defense Committee of The American Legion, being a member and former Chairman of its Sub-Committee on Aeronautics. Together with Arthur F. Duffy who is and has been for some years Chairman of the Naval Affairs Committee of The American Legion, I have been designated by the Chairman of the National Defense Committees, The American Legion, to present to you the recommendation of The American Legion as expressed in its 1945 and 1946 National Conventions with respect to the unification of the armed forces.

I am pleased on behalf of the national organization of The American Legion to have this opportunity; and with the consent of the Chairman I shall submit this prepared statement together with such additional comment and interpretation as appears necessary and desirable in order to amplify and explain the position taken by The American Legion upon this important subject, to give the background out of which these resolutions arose and to explain the reasons underlying this recommendation.

The subject of the organization and reorganization of the armed services in the interests of the national security has been a matter of consideration, discussion and debate throughout The American Legion over a number of years, as it has been in other organizations in this country. Prior